



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
PO Box 45600, Olympia, WA 98504-5600

May 22, 2014

TO: Assisted Living Administrators

FROM: Bea Rector, Director
Home and Community Services Division

SUBJECT: Resident Interviews Regarding the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Regulations on Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Settings

New Home and Community Based Services rules have been published in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and were effective March 17, 2014. The rules require all home and community based settings to be integrated in and support full access of residents to the greater community. They also prohibit settings from having qualities of an institution. You are being contacted because in the rule, settings located in a building providing 24-hour inpatient care are deemed as have qualities of an institution.

States have the opportunity to provide information to CMS explaining why a setting they presume to be institutional does, in fact, meet the qualities of home and community based settings. This information will be included in the transition plan that all states must submit to CMS. Washington's transition plan will be developed with stakeholders and we will be providing all providers with an opportunity for input and review.

In June, Aging and Long-Term Support Administration staff from the Home and Community Programs (HCP) Unit will be visiting your facility because it is located in a building providing 24-hour institutional care. Staff will meet with you and with Medicaid residents to gather information about your setting, your practices, and your facility policies. Staff will also talk with residents about their experiences living in the setting. This information will be a critical component of our state's transition plan. In the near future, HCP staff will call your facility to schedule a time to visit.

For more information on the rules, including the Press Release, Information Bulletin, Fact Sheets, and the Final Regulation, please go to: <http://www.medicaid.gov/HCBS>. A webinar is scheduled for May 30 from 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm. To register for the webinar, please go to: <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/284384050>.

cc: Carl I. Walters II, Director, Residential Care Services
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